

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

6. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for adding functionality to a portable electronic device, comprising:

a housing sized to be accepted by a housing port of a portable electronic device, the housing having an interior portion; and

a hardware interface connector connected to ~~positioned within the interior portion of the housing to be accepted by~~ a hardware interface port of the portable electronic device,

said hardware interface connector and said hardware interface port positioned within the interior portion of the housing, the hardware interface connector having between 1 and 120 receptacles, the hardware interface port having 120 pins;

said receptacles configured to correspond to a pin in the hardware interface port, said receptacles further forming two rows in parallel such that each receptacle is positioned to be numbered corresponding to its position in one of the rows, wherein one of the two rows includes receptacle positions 1 through 60, the other of the two rows includes receptacle positions 61 through 120, receptacle positions 1 and 61 being located at corresponding ends of each row, receptacle positions 60 and 120 being located at opposite ends of each row, receptacle positions 1 and 120 being located at opposite ends of each row, and receptacle positions 60 and 61 being located at opposite ends of each row.

14. (Currently Amended) A method of adding functionality to a portable electronic device, comprising the steps of:

sizing a housing to be accepted by a housing port of a portable electronic device, the housing having an interior portion;

~~connecting~~ attaching a hardware interface connector within the interior portion of the housing; ~~to be accepted by~~

connecting the hardware interface port of the portable electronic device to the hardware interface connector within the interior portion of the housing, the hardware interface ~~connection~~ connector having between 1 and 120 receptacles, the hardware interface port having 120 pins;

configuring said receptacles to correspond to a pin in the hardware interface port; and

wherein said receptacles are arranged in two parallel rows such that each receptacle is positioned to be numbered corresponding to its position in one of the rows, wherein one of the two rows includes receptacle positions 1 through 60, the other of the two rows includes receptacle positions 61 and 120, receptacle positions 1 and 61 being located at corresponding ends of each row, receptacle positions 60 and 120 being located at corresponding ends of each row, receptacle positions 1 and 120 being located at opposite ends of each row, and receptacle positions 60 and 61 being located at opposite ends of each row.

16. (Currently Amended) A device for adding functionality to a portable electronic device, comprising:

sizing a housing to be accepted by a housing port of a portable electronic device, the housing having an interior portion;

a means for connecting a hardware interface connector to a hardware interface port of the portable electronic device within the interior portion of the housing. ~~to be accepted by a hardware interface port of the portable electronic device. the hardware interface connection having between 1 and 120 receptacles, the hardware interface having 120 pins;~~

~~a means for configuring said receptacles to correspond to a respective pin in the hardware interface port; and~~

~~a means for forming said receptacles into two parallel rows such that each receptacle is positioned to be numbered corresponding to its position in one of the rows, wherein one of the two rows includes receptacle positions 1 through 60, the other of the two rows includes receptacle positions 61 and 120, receptacle positions 1 and 61 being located at corresponding ends of each row, receptacle positions 60 and 120 being located at corresponding ends of each row, receptacle positions 1 and 120 being located at opposite ends of each row, and receptacle positions 60 and 61 being located at opposite ends of each row.~~

17. (New) An apparatus for adding functionality to a portable electronic device, comprising:

a housing sized to be accepted by a housing port of a portable electronic device, the housing having an interior portion;

a hardware interface connector connected to a hardware interface port of the portable electronic device,

said hardware interface connector and said hardware interface port positioned within the interior portion of the housing, the hardware interface connector having a plurality of receptacles, the hardware interface port having a plurality of pins wherein said receptacles are configured to correspond to a pin in the hardware interface port.

18. (New) The device of claim 16 wherein the means for connecting the hardware interface connector to the hardware interface port of the portable electronic device further comprises:

between 1 and 120 receptacles located in the hardware interface connector and 120 pins located in the hardware interface port;

a means for configuring said receptacles to correspond to a respective pin in the hardware interface port; and

a means for forming said receptacles into two parallel rows such that each receptacle is positioned to be numbered corresponding to its position in one of the rows, wherein one of the two rows includes receptacle positions 1 through 60, the other of the two rows includes receptacle positions 61 and 120, receptacle positions 1 and 61 being located at corresponding ends of each row, receptacle positions 60 and 120 being located at corresponding ends of each row, receptacle positions 1 and 120 being located at opposite ends of each row, and receptacle positions 60 and 61 being located at opposite ends of each row.